

Date: April 27, 2021

City, State: Unknown

Certainty Index: Inconsistent

Narrative: **Email Received:** I'd like to tell you about Einstein. He was a 2-year-old Maltese who was very lively and healthy. He had lot of energy and loved meeting new people and curious of other dogs. He ate human quality food, had no allergy issues, got his vaccines and was in perfect health despite his small size of 4 lbs.

May 2019ish, I considered protecting him from fleas. His vet recommended Seresto flea collar due to his size. He developed health problems a few weeks subsequent to his flea collar. He lost is appetite, was sluggish, nauseous, and weak. Then he developed neurological issues. Multiple vets led to an appointment with a neurologist in August. By that point, he was 3lbs, couldn't balance to walk or use the bathroom, wouldn't eat, had tremors. MRI results showed brain damage to include slight vision loss.

Einstein was in the hospital overnight where he almost died. But thankfully, he recovered and was able to balance and walk the next afternoon. Einstein had to take daily medicine twice a day and get chemo like treatments to fight off this illness that destroyed his immune system. By November, he appeared to be almost normal.

Then in January 2020, a second Seresto collar was purchased and placed around his neck. The vet and his neurologist said that it was safe. And because I wanted to protect him and do my best to keep him healthy as a responsible pet owner, I put this deadly collar on him in January. Literally two weeks after his collar, he lost his balance again with a severe head tilt. He lost the use of his hind legs. I rushed him to his neurologist for treatment, but he didn't recover. He was gone February 10, 2020.

I, like thousands of others, did not think to consider Seresto flea collar as the culprit of our furbabies illness and death. I do not make these accusations lightly - I have Einstein's medical history, medical bills, MRIs, and autopsy in addition to timeline of events, it leads to Seresto, not coincidence. I read the USA Today's article and it clicked. Based on the dates of events, Seresto collar caused Einstein's death. The guilt I carry for the choice I made....the action to do the right thing that led to death never leaves me. I know without a doubt that if I did not pus his collar on, even the second time, he would be alive AND healthy. I would not be reaching out to you to provide a formal complaint. Instead, I look for ways to reach out to retailers to stop carrying Seresto, find who is involved in a class action lawsuit, wonder who is helping us, who is helping the animals that we consider dear family whose voices aren't heard and died a terrible death, and give my condolences to others who lost their family member due to this poisonous collar that has shown to cause harmful reactions in humans.

This is clearly a wrongful death claim. I was misled. Seresto, Elanco et al are all negligent and not transparent. They knowingly knew or should have known the harmful chemicals used for the

collar induced negative side effects in dogs and humans to a degree that should've been considered adverse to the point that in good conscience and for the safety of the consumers should not have been available for use. But they decided to ignore this and put the product into market, misleading consumers to believing the product passed rigorous tests and therefore, safe for use.

This is my story and I stand by it. I swear by it. And I would like to ask that you take this with great seriousness. For pet owners, this is eerily similar to losing a beloved child still full of life.

I thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I appreciate it. Please do not hesitate to reach out with my questions or concerns.

Email Response:

Thank you for emailing and reporting an adverse health effect after use of a Seresto flea collar. I am very sorry to hear about your situation and the loss of Einstein.

Please call us at 800-858-7378 Monday - Friday from 8:00am to 12:00pm Pacific Time to speak directly to a Pesticide Specialist to further report and discuss what happened. Although your email is very thorough, there are still some details that are missing that would help us understand exactly what happened.

The National Pesticide Information Center at Oregon State University is an information service and has no regulatory authority in relation to pesticides. However, our incident reports are made available to the US EPA. Furthermore, our website features a reporting database that veterinarians can use to report adverse effects related to pesticide products. Please be aware this resource is only for veterinarians. Please consider encouraging your veterinarian to submit a report through this portal when they observe adverse reactions to pesticide products. The link for this portal is provided below.

Veterinary Pesticide Adverse Effects Reporting
<http://npic.orst.edu/vet> (for use only by veterinary professionals)

For further information on how to report incidents involving pets or domestic animals, please see the link below.

Report Pesticide Exposure Incidents Affecting Pets or Domestic Animals
<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-incidents/report-pesticide-exposure-incidents-affecting-pets-or-domestic-animals>

An additional mode of reporting adverse effects is by contacting the manufacturer. Under FIFRA 6(a)(2), manufacturers are required to submit adverse effects information about their products to the US EPA. As you know, Seresto is made by Elanco.

Elanco Animal Health
888-545-5973

Again, please call us so that we can get the necessary details to report the incident as fully as possible. I am truly very sorry to hear of the loss of your beloved dog.